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1/7/09

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Thomas J. LA ROSA *et al.*

Art Unit: 1638

Appln. No.: 10/612,783

Examiner: Phuong T. Bui

Filed: July 2, 2003

Confirmation No.: 2839

For: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other  
Molecules Associated with Plants and  
Uses Thereof for Plant Improvement

Atty. Docket: 16517.288

**Amendment and Response to Final Office Action mailed October 30, 2008**

Mail Stop After Final  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed October 30, 2008 ("Final Office Action").

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this response.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this response.